

A map of Iraq and surrounding regions, with Iraq highlighted in yellow. The map shows the Persian Gulf to the east and the Mediterranean Sea to the north. The title "Iraq Weekly Status Report" is centered over the yellow area of Iraq.

Iraq Weekly Status Report

August 23, 2006

**Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
US Department of State**



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This report provides weekly updates in the eight key areas identified as pillars of US government policy for victory in Iraq.

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Highlights

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1. Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents

Phase II of Operation Together Forward is continuing to show progress in Baghdad. The Iraqi-led campaign is designed to reduce violence in the capital, not only through security means but also by promoting economic incentives, civic action projects, and controlling illegal weapons.

2. Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance

On September 3, the 8th Iraqi Army Division will become the first Iraqi Division to operate independently .

3. Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government

Shia parties are split regarding the influence of Iran in Iraqi affairs. The Islamic Allegiance Party (political wing of cleric Mahmoud Abdul Ridha al-Hassani) and the Fadhila bloc directed recriminations at two of the largest Shia parties in parliament, the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq and the Da'wa party. The pointed criticism followed a round of violent clashes this week in southern Iraq between rival Shia factions.

4. Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services

Two water treatment projects totaling nearly \$1.5 million were recently completed in Salah ad Din Province. These US Army-funded projects included the installation of new water compact units capable of providing clean drinking water to about 50,000 people in the Tikrit area.



Highlights

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5. Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

The Iraqi Company for Bank Guarantees (ICBG) announced its establishment recently. Equipped with \$3.5 million for start-up capital, the ICBG will guarantee bank loans to small and medium-sized enterprises.

6. Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law

More than 950 new Iraqi recruits began a ten-week Basic Police Officer training course August 21. The new recruits are the result of one of Multi-National Forces - West most successful recruiting efforts this year.

7. Increase International Support for Iraq

The United Kingdom intends to cut the number of British soldiers in Iraq in half by mid-2007. The plan calls for the pullout to begin in early 2007 with the withdrawal of 1,000 of the 7,000-strong existing force, officials said August 22 in London. This is the most optimistic projection, they said, with the pace of withdrawal governed by the ability of Iraq's government to take control of regions currently under the control of British Forces.

8. Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents

Addressing a press conference August 21, President Bush acknowledged that the Iraq war was "straining the psyche of our country," but made clear that withdrawing from Iraq would be a mistake and that it would not occur during his presidency.



[1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

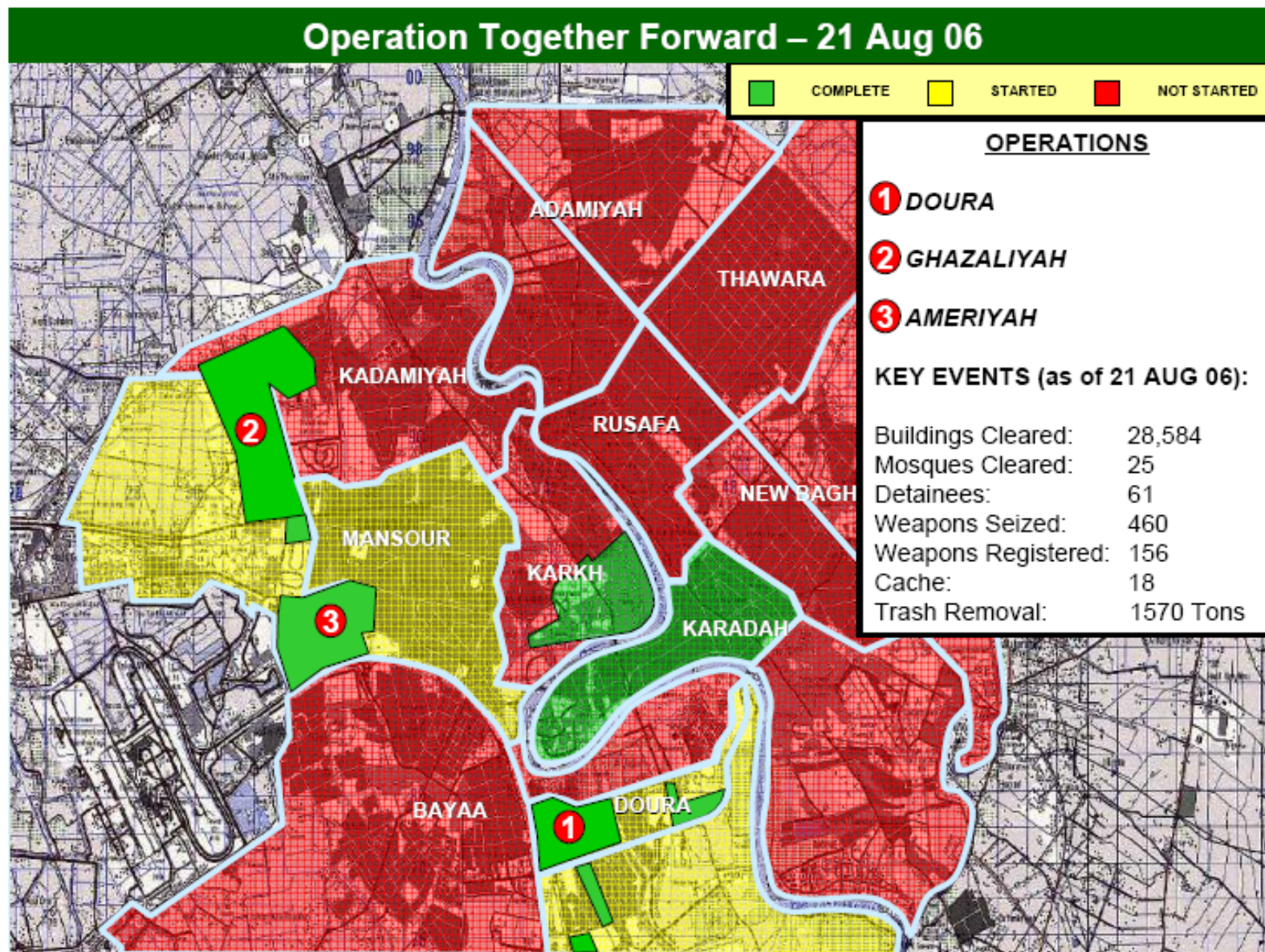
Operation Together Forward Continues to Progress in Baghdad:

- Phase II of Operation Together Forward is continuing to show progress in Baghdad. The Iraqi-led campaign is designed to reduce violence in the capital, not only through security means but also by promoting economic incentives, civic action projects, and controlling illegal weapons.
 - This past week, Iraqi and Coalition Forces concentrated on four major Baghdad hot spots – mostly in the western part of the city – in an effort to reduce the number of murders, kidnappings, assassinations, and car bombs in those areas. Additionally, operations in the Doura neighborhood of southern Baghdad continued to build on the improved security established over the past two weeks.
 - In Ameriya – a key neighborhood in western Baghdad – more than 50 percent of the shops in the market were re-opened after Iraqi and Coalition Forces conducted operations there, according to Iraqi Army Brig. Gen. Abdul Jaleel August 16.



[1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

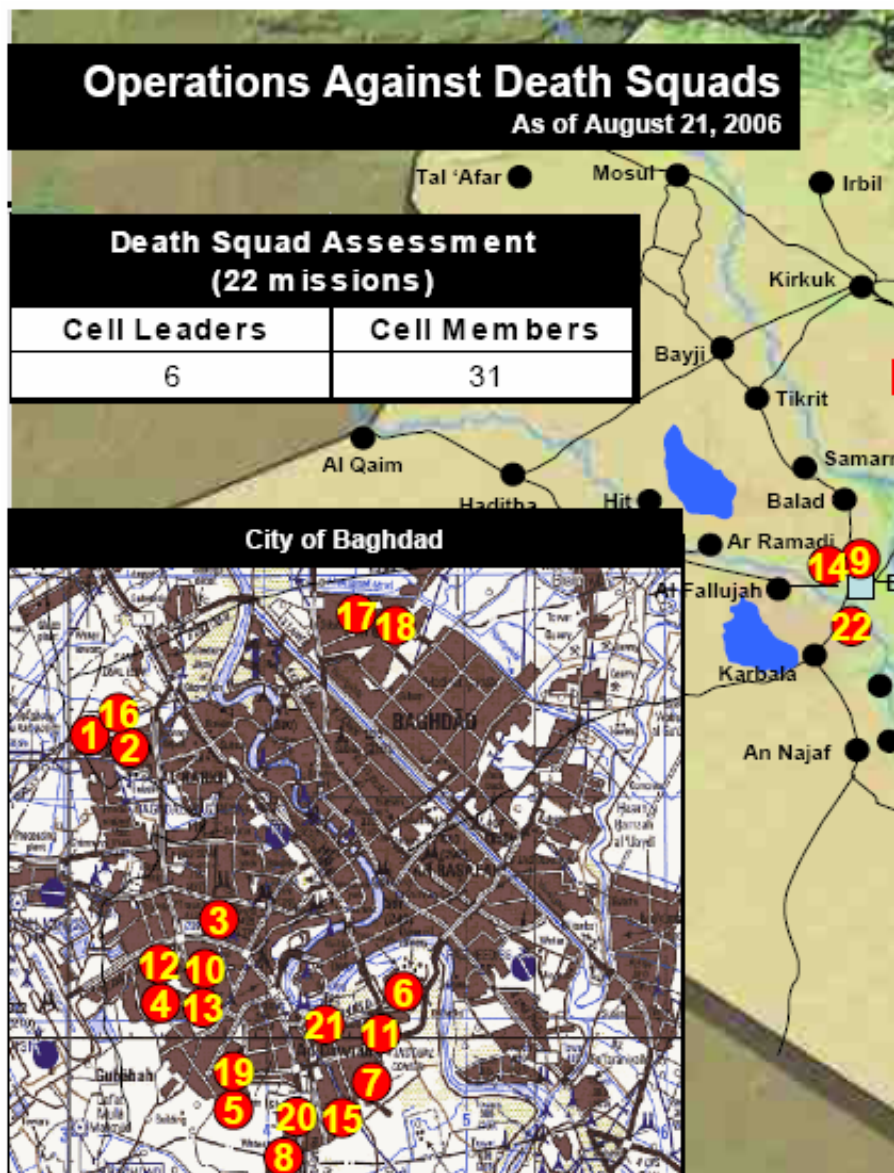
DEPARTMENT OF STATE





[1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



- 1 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a Raid OP IVO Kadamiyah, 14 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. **NSTR**
- 2 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a Raid OP IVO Kadamiyah, 14 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. **NSTR**
- 3 BAGHDAD: ISF Conducted a Raid OP IVO Mansour, 14 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. (1) **detained**
- 4 BAGHDAD: ISF and CF Conducted a Raid OP IVO Kadamiyah, 15 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. **NSTR**
- 5 BAGHDAD: ISF and CF Conducted a Raid OP IVO Kadamiyah, 15 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members.
- 6 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Doura, 15 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. **NSTR**
- 7 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Doura, 15 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. **NSTR**
- 8 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted (3) C/S OP IVO Doura, 15 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. **NSTR**
- 9 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Taji, 15 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. (1) **detained**
- 10 BAGHDAD: ISF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Bayaa, 16 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. **NSTR**
- 11 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Doura, 16 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Cell Members. **NSTR**
- 12 BAGHDAD: ISF & CF Conducted a Raid OP IVO Bayaa, 17 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. (1) **detainee**
- 13 BAGHDAD: ISF & CF Conducted a Raid OP IVO BAYAA, 18 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. (3) **cell leaders detained**
- 14 BAGHDAD: ISF & CF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Taji, 18 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. (7) **detainees, (3 of 7 foreign fighters)**
- 15 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Doura, 18 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. **NSTR**
- 16 BAGHDAD: ISF & CF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Kadamiyah, 18 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. (5) **detained**
- 17 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Adamiyah, 19 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. (1) **detained, 3 rescued**
- 18 BAGHDAD: ISF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Adamiyah, 19 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. (2) **detained, (1) rescued**
- 19 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a C/S OP IVO Bayaa, 19 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. **NSTR**
- 20 BAGHDAD: ISF & CF Conducted a Raid OP IVO Doura, 20 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. (6) **detained, (2 of 6 cell leaders)**
- 21 BAGHDAD: CF Conducted a C&S OP IVO Doura, 20 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. (1) **detained**
- 22 BAGHDAD: ISF & CF Conducted a Raid OP IVO Yusufiyah, 21 AUG 06, IOT Capture Death Squad Members. (1) **cell leader, (2) detainees**



[2.] Transition to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

8th Iraqi Army Division Soon to Be Operating Independently:

- US Army Brigadier General Dana Pittard, commander of the Iraqi Assistance Group, said that after September 3 the 8th Iraqi Army Division will be operating independently. The unit will be the first full Iraqi Army division to reach this level of independence.

Sixteen Graduate From Iraq's Inspector General Course:

- Iraq's Ministry of Interior graduated 16 students, including three females, from the first Inspector General's Investigation course August 10. The three-week course was taught by international police trainers from the US Justice Department and International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program.



[2.] Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

Ministry of Interior Forces

COMPONENT	TRAINED & EQUIPPED
POLICE	~115,500***
NATIONAL POLICE	~ 24,400
OTHER MOI FORCES	~25,200
TOTAL	~165,100**

Ministry of Defense Forces

COMPONENT	OPERATIONAL
ARMY	~127,200***
AIR FORCE	~700
NAVY	~1,100
TOTAL	~129,000**

Total Trained & Equipped ISF:

~294,100****

* Ministry of Interior Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are included in these numbers

** Ministry of Defense Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are not included in these numbers

*** Army numbers include Special Operations Forces and Support Forces

**** Does not include the approximately 144,000 Facilities Protection Service personnel working in 27 ministries

Data as of August 21, 2006 (updated bi-weekly by DOD)



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government– **Developments**

Shia Targeted on Holiday Pilgrimage:

- Sunni Arab insurgents attacked Shia pilgrims in the Karkh, Kadhimiyah and Bab al-Muadham areas of Baghdad August 20 as they commemorated the death of one of Shia Islam's holiest figures. The largest Sunni party in parliament, the Iraqi Islamic Party, denounced the Shia-led government for announcing the deaths of only Shia pilgrims. Prime Minister Maliki issued a statement condemning the violence, which he said had been carried out by Sunni insurgents and supporters of ousted president Saddam Hussein.

SCIRI Member Emphasizes Need to Dissolve Militias:

- After a meeting with the United Nations August 16, Council of Representatives (CoR) and Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI) member Sheikh Humam Hammoudi publicly asserted the importance of dissolving Iraq's militias as a way to mitigate Iraq's current security crisis. As an alternative, Hammoudi expressed his support for a proposal to form popular committees which would aim to dissolve local militia participation and whereby each area's citizens would participate in protecting their neighborhood.

Commission on Public Integrity Investigates Corruption:

- Iraq's Commission on Public Integrity (CPI) is investigating the misappropriation of \$7.5 billion, including \$4 billion at the Ministry of Defense, \$150 million at the Ministry of Trade, and \$50 million at the Ministry of Health. CPI has arrested former Minister of Electricity Ayham al-Samaraie and subpoenaed former Minister of Electricity Abdul Muhsin Shlash. CPI Director Judge Radhi al-Radhi claimed the CPI is being pressured by political entities and that he will be asking the CoR to revoke parliament member Misha'an al-Jaburi's immunity status.



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government– **Developments**

Shia Parties Split Over Iran:

- Two Shia Muslim parties, the Islamic Allegiance Party (political wing of cleric Mahmoud Abdul Ridha al-Hassani) and the Fadhila bloc, accused Iran August 18 of instigating violence in Iraq and attempting to destabilize the country, exposing a growing rift within Iraq's largest sect. The recriminations were directed at two of the largest Shia parties in parliament, SCIRI and the Da'wa party. SCIRI was founded in Iran during Saddam Hussein's rule and retains strong ties to Iran. The pointed criticism of Iran followed a round of violent clashes this week in southern Iraq between rival Shia factions.



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government - Iraqi National Unity Government

		Deputy President Tariq al-Hashimi	President Jalal Talabani	Deputy President 'Adil 'Abd al-Mahdi	
		Deputy Prime Minister Barham Salih	Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki	Deputy Prime Minister Salam al-Zawba'i	
(F) = Female					
Minister of Agriculture Ya'rub Nathim	Minister of Communications Muhammad Tawfiq Allawi	Minister of Culture As'ad Kamal Muhammad Abdallah al-Hashimi	Minister of Defense Abdul Qadir Muhammed Jasim	Minister of Displacement & Migration Abd al-Samad Rahman Sultan	Minister of Electricity Karim Wahid
Minister of Education Khudayyir al-Khuza'i	Minister of Environment Narmin 'Uthman (F)	Minister of Finance Bayan Jabr	Minister of Foreign Affairs Hoshyar Zebari	Minister of Health Ali al-Shammari	Minister of Higher Education Abd Dhiyab al-Ajili
Minister of Human Rights Wijdan Mikha'il (F)	Minister of Industry & Minerals Fawzi al-Hariri	Minister of Interior Jawad al-Bulani	Minister of Justice Hashim al-Shibli	Minister of Housing & Construction Bayan Daza'l (F)	Minister of Labor & Social Affairs Mahmud Muhammad Jawad al-Radi
Minister of Oil Husayn al-Shahristani	Minister of Planning Ali Baban	Minister of Trade Abd al-Falah al-Sudani	Minister of Science & Technology Ra'id Fahmi Jahid	Minister of Municipalities & Public Works Riyad Ghurayyib	Minister of Transportation Karim Mahdi Salih
Minister of Water Resources 'Abd al-Latif Rashid	Minister of Youth & Sports Jasim Muhammad Ja'far	Minister of State for Civil Society Adil al-Asadi	Minister of State for National Dialogue Affairs Akram al-Hakim	Minister of State for National Security Affairs Shirwan al-Waili	
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rafi Hiyad al-Isawi	Minister of State for Governorates Affairs Sa'd Tahir Abd Khalaf al-Hashimi	Minister of State for Tourism and Antiquities Liwa Sumaysim	Minister of State for Women's Affairs Fatin Abd al-Rahman Mahmud (F)	Minister of State for CoR Affairs Safa al-Safi	



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Financials from Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) 1 and IRRF 2

(Millions of USD)

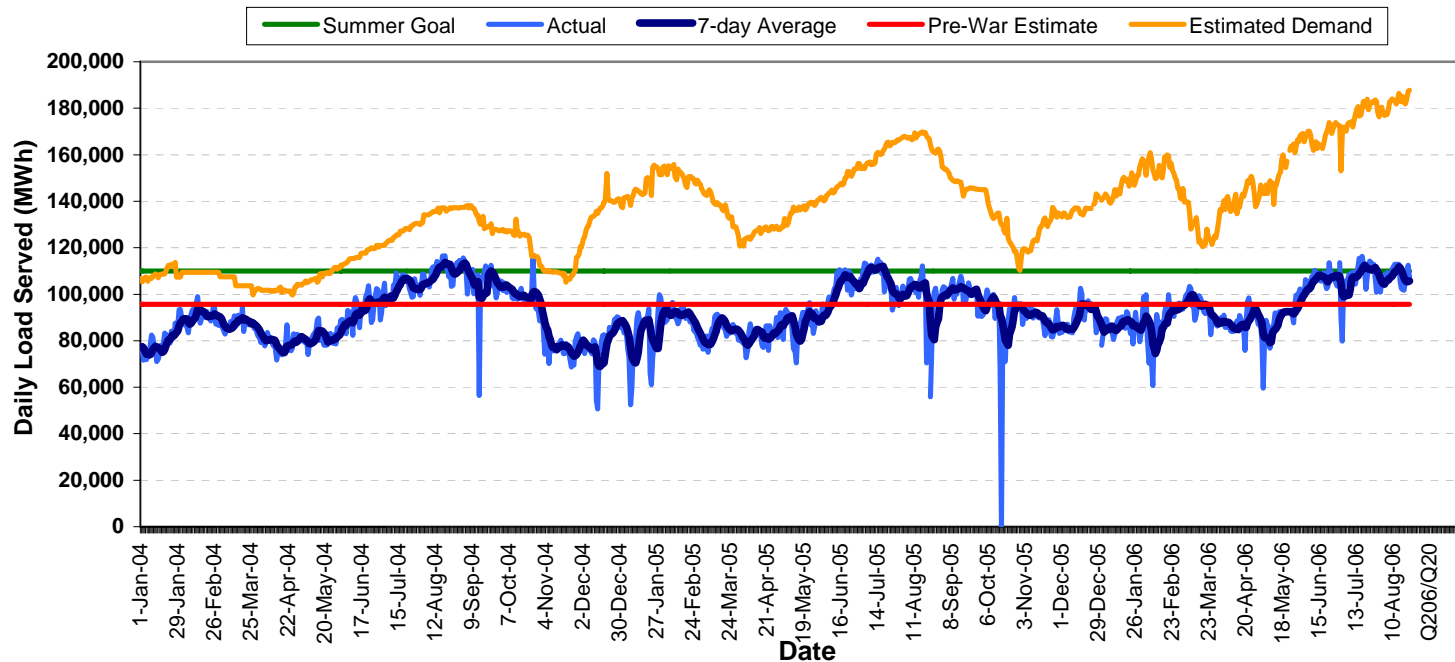
Sector	Apportioned		Committed			Obligated			Disbursed		
	2207 Report	Apportion	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change
Security and Law Enforcement	\$5,030.60	\$5,030.60	\$4,973.74	\$4,969.91	-\$3.83	\$4,958.10	\$4,958.10	\$0.00	\$4,610.32	\$4,618.41	\$8.09
Electricity Sector	\$4,220.02	\$4,220.02	\$4,168.95	\$4,163.01	-\$5.95	\$3,816.21	\$3,870.37	\$54.16	\$2,502.35	\$2,522.46	\$20.11
Oil Infrastructure	\$1,724.70	\$1,724.70	\$1,698.30	\$1,702.41	\$4.11	\$1,675.15	\$1,686.63	\$11.48	\$1,090.80	\$1,100.91	\$10.11
Justice, Public Safety and Civil Society	\$1,308.10	\$1,308.10	\$1,246.77	\$1,273.48	\$26.71	\$1,203.28	\$1,231.30	\$28.02	\$879.18	\$900.17	\$20.99
Democracy	\$1,013.85	\$1,013.85	\$1,000.07	\$999.41	-\$0.66	\$995.70	\$995.58	-\$0.12	\$797.21	\$799.59	\$2.38
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	\$410.00	\$410.00	\$391.30	\$390.32	-\$0.98	\$368.36	\$367.94	-\$0.42	\$291.90	\$298.68	\$6.78
Roads, Bridges and Construction	\$333.71	\$333.71	\$331.43	\$330.67	-\$0.76	\$326.09	\$323.64	-\$2.45	\$190.95	\$191.42	\$0.47
Health Care	\$784.50	\$784.50	\$766.26	\$773.60	\$7.34	\$732.44	\$736.08	\$3.64	\$513.97	\$519.22	\$5.25
Transportation and Communications	\$469.11	\$469.11	\$447.64	\$445.79	-\$1.85	\$419.77	\$421.64	\$1.87	\$304.23	\$307.30	\$3.07
Water Resources and Sanitation	\$2,131.08	\$2,131.08	\$2,042.76	\$2,045.27	\$2.50	\$1,821.38	\$1,835.04	\$13.65	\$1,233.66	\$1,249.19	\$15.53
Private Sector Development	\$805.28	\$805.28	\$799.50	\$799.50	\$0.00	\$795.33	\$795.33	\$0.00	\$697.87	\$697.37	-\$0.50
Admin Expense (USAID, STATE)	\$213.00	\$213.00	\$212.44	\$212.44	\$0.00	\$212.44	\$212.44	\$0.00	\$146.52	\$151.73	\$5.21
Total	\$18,443.94	\$18,443.94	\$18,079.17	\$18,105.81	\$26.64	\$17,324.23	\$17,434.07	\$109.84	\$13,258.97	\$13,356.45	\$97.48
IRRF II Construction			\$10,404.49	\$10,389.01	-\$15.48	\$9,793.13	\$9,861.33	\$68.19	\$7,049.86	\$7,122.24	\$72.38
IRRF II Non-Construction			\$6,674.61	\$6,717.38	\$42.77	\$6,535.40	\$6,577.17	\$41.77	\$5,411.90	\$5,434.62	\$22.72
IRRF II Democracy			\$1,000.07	\$999.41	-\$0.66	\$995.70	\$995.58	-\$0.12	\$797.21	\$799.59	\$2.38
IRRF I Total	\$2,473.30	\$2,473.30	\$2,473.30	\$2,473.30	\$0.00	\$2,232.3	\$2,232.3	\$0.00	\$2,139.00	\$2,139.0	\$0.00
Grand Total IRRF I & II	\$20,917.24	\$20,917.24	\$20,552.47	\$20,579.11	\$26.64	\$19,556.53	\$19,666.37	\$109.84	\$15,397.97	\$15,495.45	\$97.48

As of August 22, 2006



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Electricity Overview

Daily Electricity Supplied and Estimated Demand in Iraq Since January 2004



- During the week of August 16-22 electricity availability averaged 5.9 hours per day in Baghdad and 10.7 hours nationwide. Electricity output for the week was nine percent above the same period in 2005.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Water, Electricity, and National Capacity Development**

Water:

- Two water treatment projects totaling nearly \$1.5 million were recently completed in Salah ad Din Province. These US Army-funded projects included the installation of new water compact units capable of providing clean drinking water to about 50,000 people in the Tikrit area.

Electricity:

- On August 22, the cumulative loss of transmission lines due to interdictions and wind had left Baghdad cut-off from northern and western generation and was limiting deliveries from the south, reducing daily electricity service to the city to four hours, the lowest since May.

National Capacity Development:

- A contract has been awarded to provide audiovisual equipment for a new media center in the Prime Minister's Office. The USG-funded project will enhance the Iraqi Government's ability to make broadcasts and conduct press conferences. The US Embassy Media Director is assisting with this project.



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Oil Update and Job Creation

Oil Update:

- Crude oil prices in world markets for the week ending August 18 closed with the following prices:
 - Basra Light at \$64.76/barrel
 - WTI Cushing at \$71.93/barrel
 - Dated Brent at \$72.66/barrel
 - Oman/Dubai at \$68.43/barrel

Employment Update:

- The following chart shows the number of Iraqis employed by USG-administered projects:

Employing Organization	Iraqis Last Week	Iraqis This Week	% Increase on Week
PCO (Project and Contracting Office)	21,843	21,843	0.00%
USAID	70,994	70,926	-0.10%
AIRP (Accelerated Iraqi Reconstruction Program)	659	659	0.00%
MILCON (Military Construction)	127	127	0.00%
CERP*	6,623	7,051	6.46%
MNSTC-I	8,998	8,713	-3.17%
IRRF NON-CONSTRUCTION	11,238	11,238	0.00%
GRAND TOTAL	120,482	120,557	0.06%

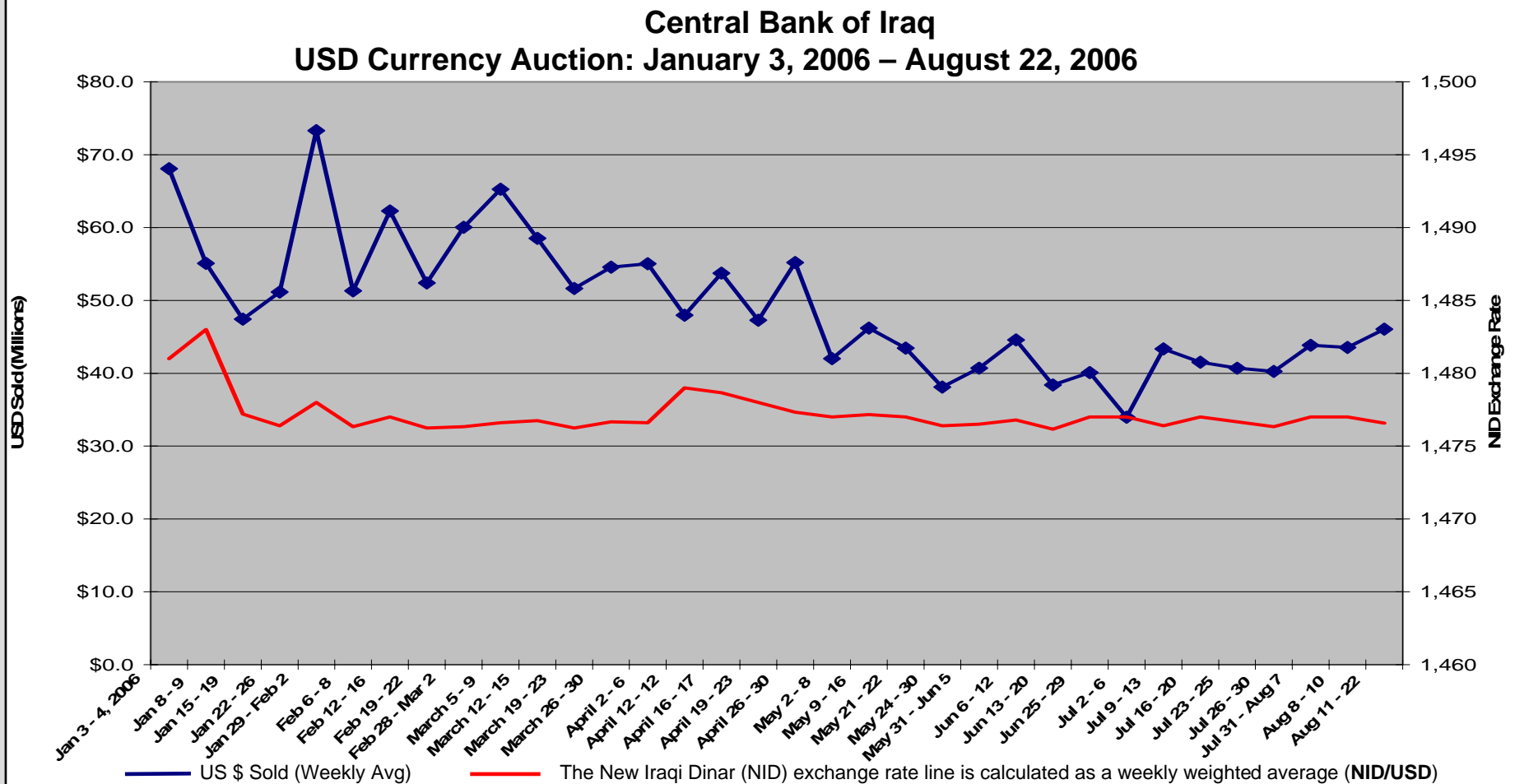
* CERP employment numbers are representative of Baghdad only.



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy - Banking Sector

Central Bank's US Dollar (USD) Currency Auction:

- The following table shows volume sold and exchange rates for USD in the Iraqi currency auction since January 3, 2006. The dinar remained stable against the dollar this week, ending at 1,477 dinars per USD August 22.



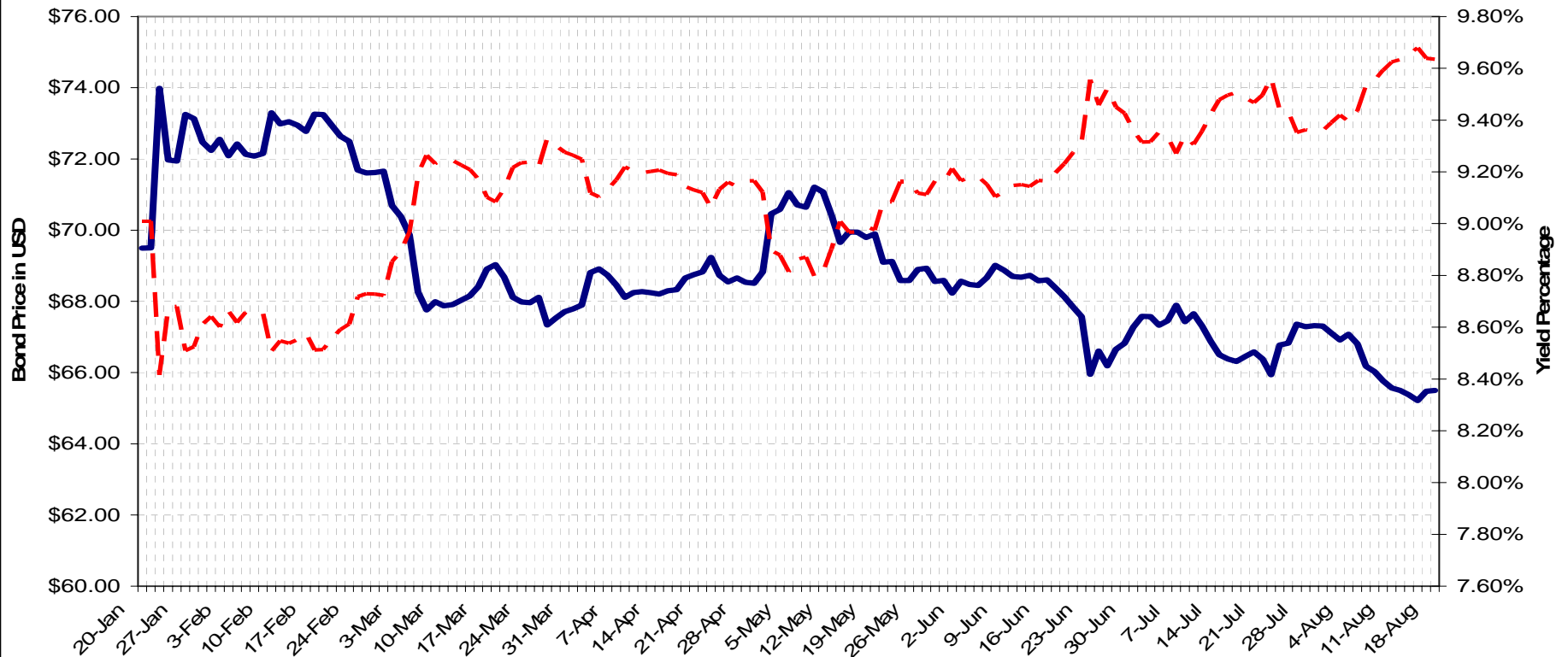


[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Securities Markets

Trading of Iraqi Bonds on the International Secondary Bond Market:

- The following table shows the daily bond resale price and yield on Iraqi bonds issued January 20. The bonds were originally issued to about two-thirds of Iraq's commercial creditors as part of a debt exchange arrangement at Paris Club terms. Iraq's commercial debt was approximately \$22 billion before the debt-swap arrangement. The bonds, which are not yet rated, will mature in 2028. The bonds' current yield of 9.64 percent remains one of the highest in the world for sovereign debt instruments.

Iraqi Commercial Bond Sales January 20, 2006 - August 18, 2006



Trading High = \$73.98 (January 24)

Trading Low = \$65.21 (August 16)

— Bond Price — Yield



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Recent Economic Events

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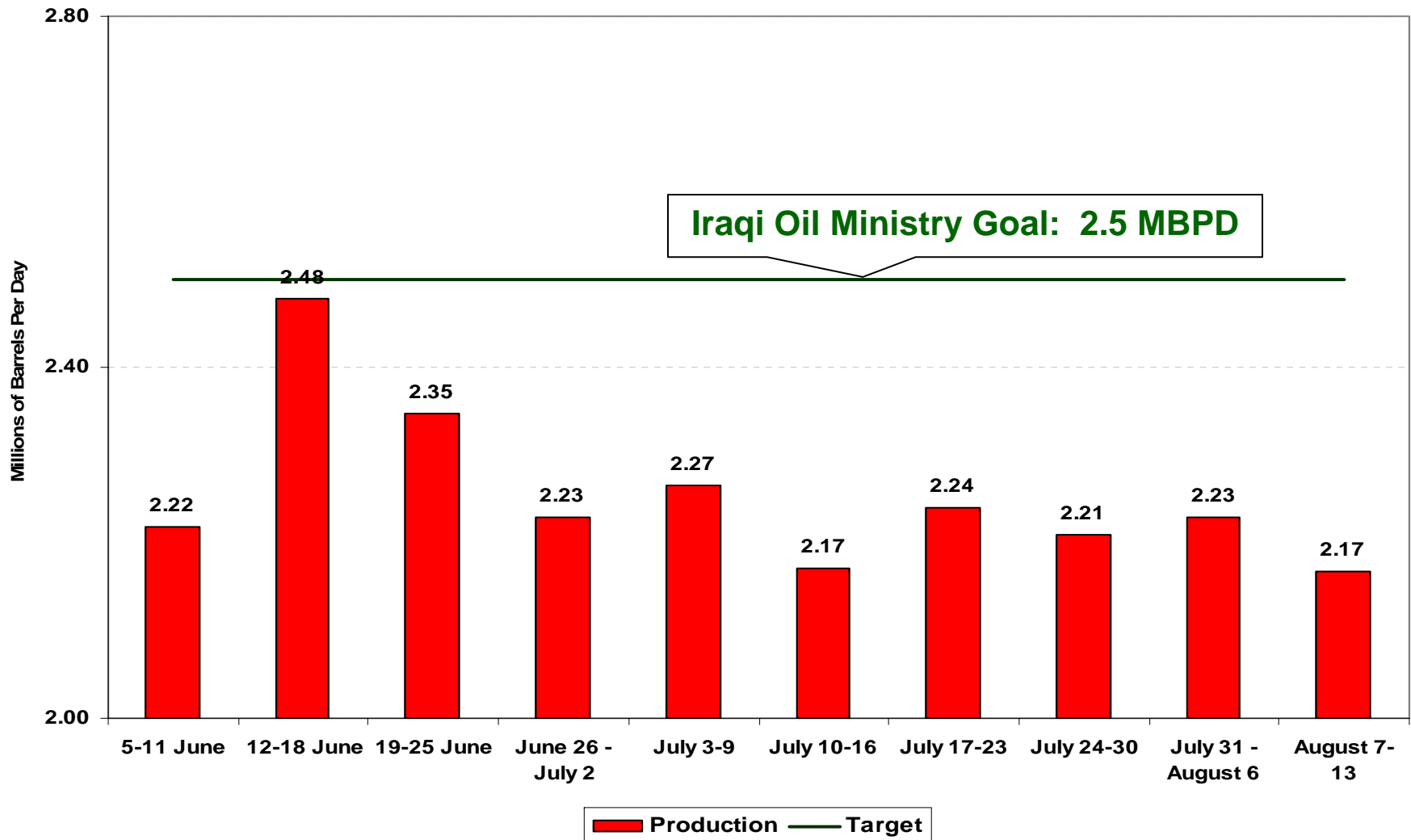
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Iraqi Loan Guarantee Corporation:

- The Iraqi Company for Bank Guarantees (ICBG) announced its establishment recently. Equipped with \$3.5 million for start-up capital, the ICBG will guarantee bank loans to small and medium-sized enterprises.
- The Chairman of the ICBG Board explained that 12 Iraqi banks were already working with ICBG and the minimum value for the guaranteed loans was \$5,000 and the maximum value was \$250,000 at an annual interest rate of two percent.
- The ICBG signed a bilateral agreement with the Jordan Bank Guarantees Corporation according to which the Jordanian corporation will provide the ICBG with expertise and train the company's staff.



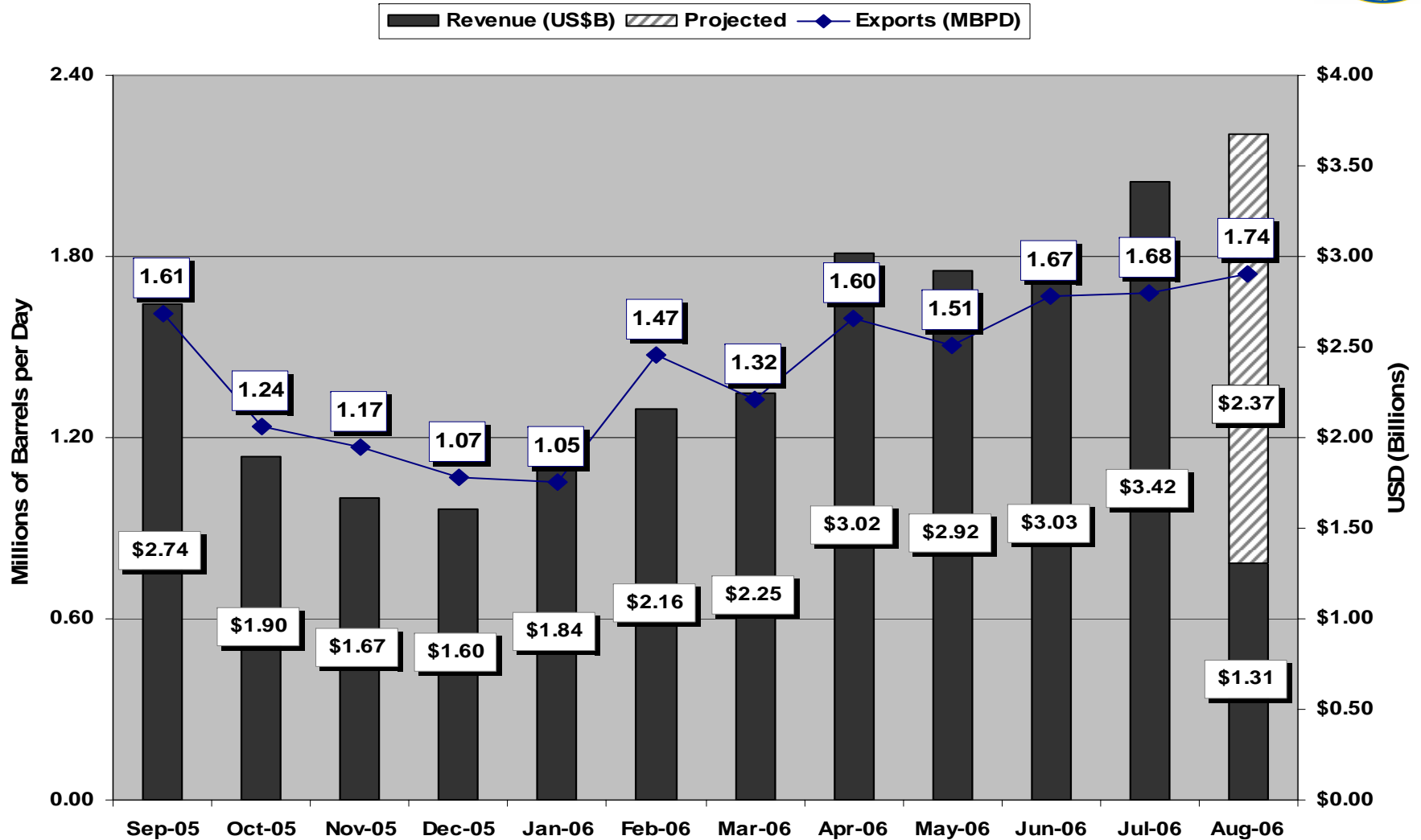
[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Crude Oil Production



- Weekly Average (August 7-13) of 2.17 Million Barrels Per Day (MBPD)



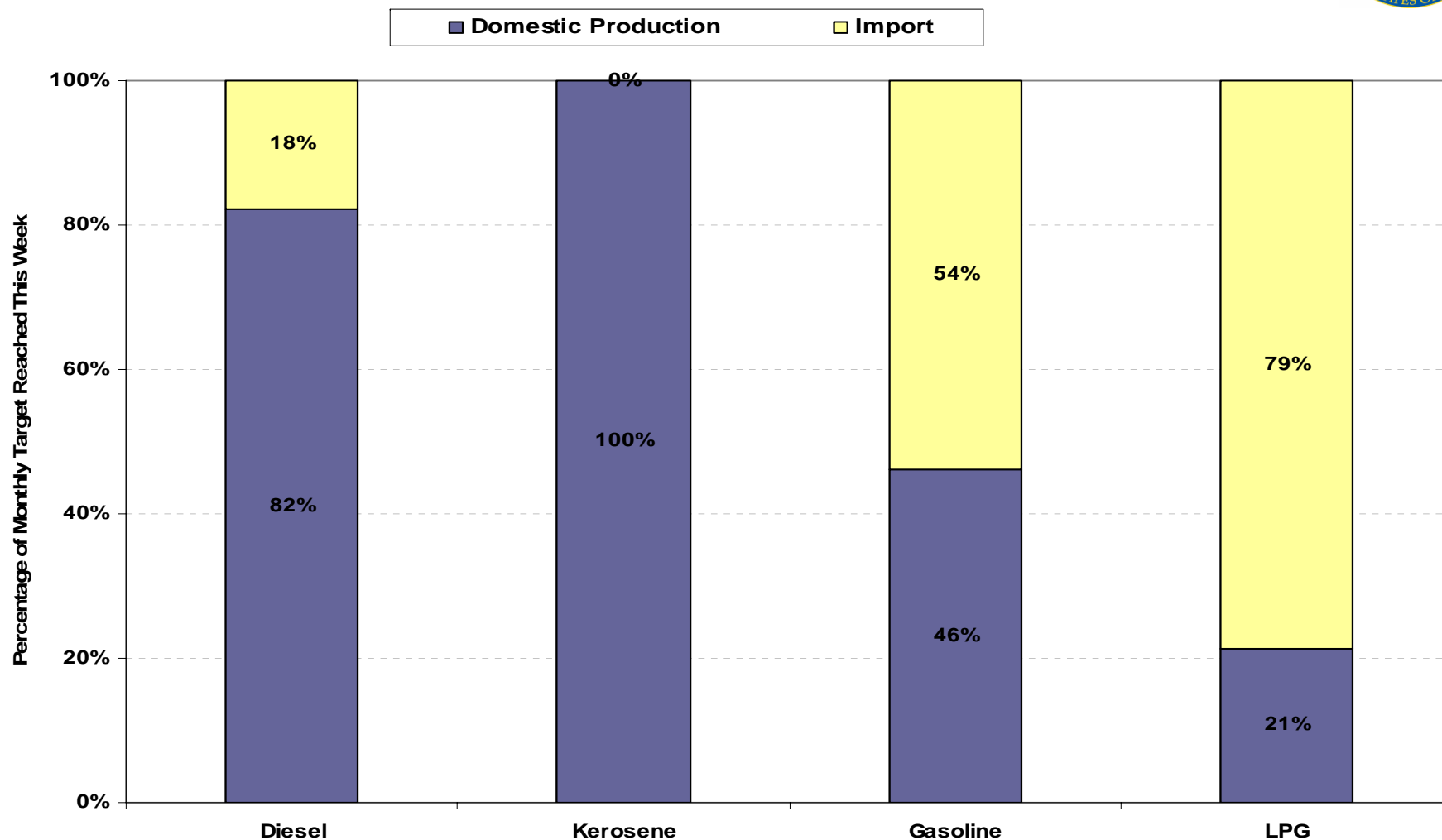
[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Crude Oil Export



- 2005 Revenue Estimate: \$23.5 Billion
- 2006 Revenue Estimate: \$19.9 Billion (Year to Date)



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Total Critical Refined Product Supplies

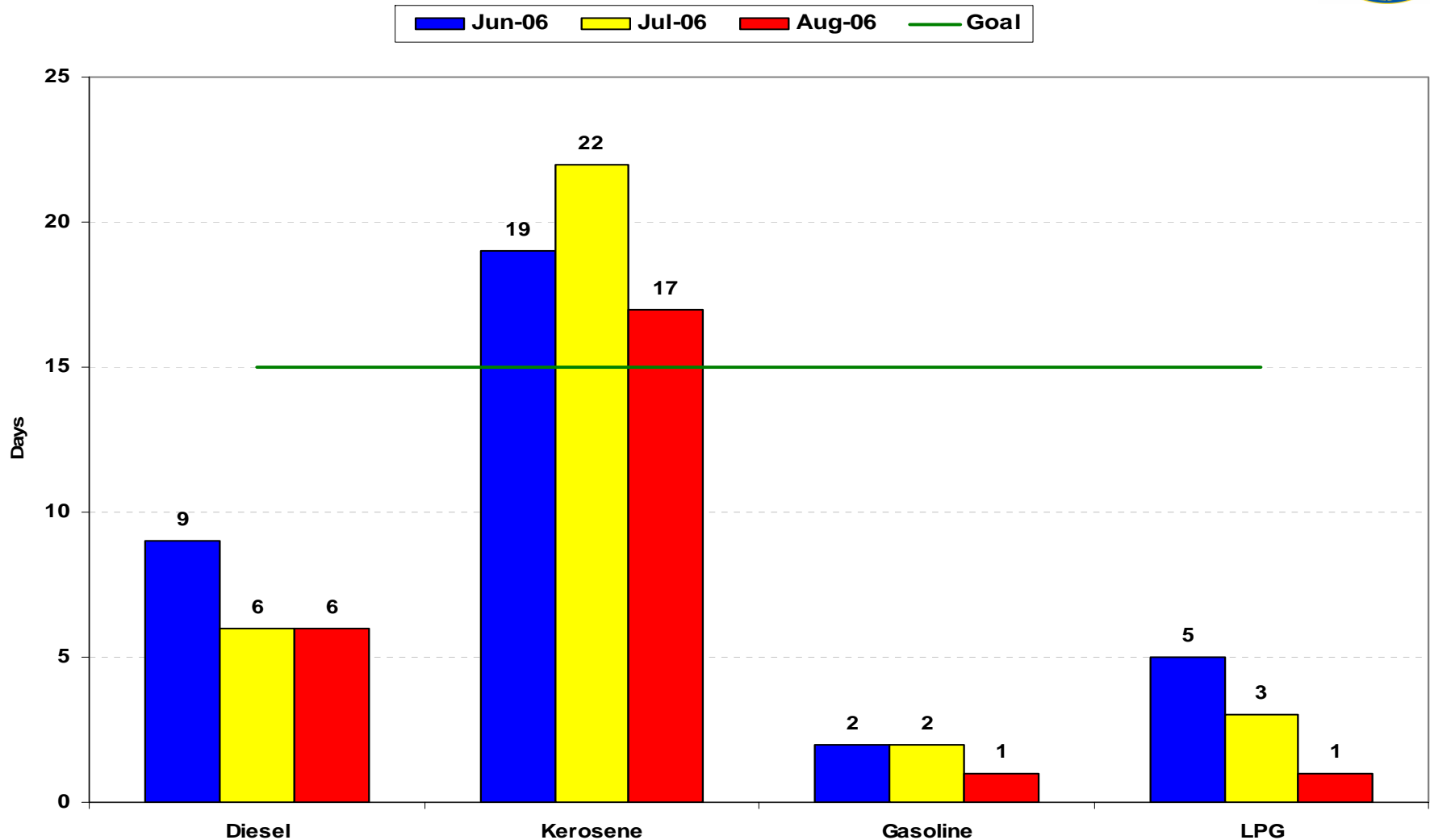


Note: This is a daily average for the week of August 7-13

- Diesel: 11.1 ML supply of 21.0 ML target
- Kerosene: 3.7 ML supply of 5.5 ML target
- Gasoline: 15.4 ML supply of 22.0 ML target
- LPG: 2,940 tons supply of 4,460 tons target



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – National Stock Levels



- The goal is to have on hand 15 days supply of all refined products, calculated on the basis of maximum consumption over the year and not adjusted for seasonal variation. The numbers given above are monthly averages.



[6.] Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights— Iraqi Judicial System

CCCI Convicts 27 Insurgents, Two Sentenced to Life Imprisonment:

- The Central Criminal Court of Iraq (CCCI) convicted 27 security detainees August 4 - 10 for various crimes including possession of illegal weapons, joining armed groups and illegal border crossing.
- The trial court found Alaa Faris Haza Muhammad guilty of joining armed groups to unsettle the stability and security of Iraq, in violation of Article 194 of the Iraqi Penal Code, and sentenced him to life imprisonment. Coalition Forces (CF) apprehended Muhammad and two other defendants during a raid to disrupt anti-Iraqi and anti-Coalition elements. He confessed to assembling vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices and improvised explosive devices. The charges against the other two defendants were dismissed.
- The trial court found Adeeb Mashoor Aoda guilty of joining armed groups to unsettle the stability and security of Iraq, in violation of Article 194 of the Iraqi Penal Code, and sentenced him to life imprisonment. CF apprehended Aoda and two other defendants after a search of two vehicles revealed two AK-47 rifles, one pellet gun, 100 meters of detonation cord, one spool of copper wire, three cell phones with timers, three motorcycle batteries, and four pounds of PE4 Explosives. The charges against the other two defendants were dismissed.
- Upon conviction, defendants will be turned over to the Iraqi Corrections Service to serve their sentences. To date, the CCCI has held 1,365 trials of insurgents suspected of anti-Iraqi and anti-Coalition activities threatening the security of Iraq and targeting Multi-National Forces - Iraq. These proceedings have resulted in 1,171 individual convictions with sentences ranging up to death.



[6.] Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights– Iraqi Judicial System

Most Successful Iraqi Police Recruiting Drive:

- More than 950 new Iraqi recruits began a ten-week Basic Police Officer training course August 21. The new recruits are the result of one of Multi-National Forces - West (MNF-W) most successful recruiting efforts this year. The monthly drive focused on identifying, screening and signing up local Iraqi national men from communities in and around the Euphrates River Valley. Many of the new recruits will receive their training at the Baghdad Police College, while others will attend the Jordanian International Police College.
- Upon completion of training, the recruits will return to their communities where they will serve as some of the more than 7,000 Iraqi police officers trained under the new Iraqi government.
- According to MNF-W Police Advisor Maj. Robert Chiaruttini, the success of recent recruiting drives is due in part to improvements that the Iraqi Ministry of Interior and al-Anbar officials have made to the system used to pay Iraqi police. "Getting these guys paid on time had been an ongoing issue in the past," Chiaruttini said. "I would not say the system is perfect now, but it's definitely improving and I think you can see the results of that in our recruiting numbers."



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

OCS/UNAMI Concludes Series of Seminars:

- The Office of Constitutional Support in the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (OCS/UNAMI) has concluded its series of Iraqi multi-party dialogue seminars, which were held in Jordan, Austria, Spain, Italy and Turkey in cooperation with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP-Iraq) and the respective host countries. The seminars tackled federalism related issues including fiscal federalism and oil and gas, the judiciary, human rights, and accountability of government. A second generation of multi-party dialogues are now being planned in order to support the constitutional review process in Iraq. A separate press conference will soon be held on the results of the federalism seminars.

UK Planning to Cut Iraq Force in Half by Mid-2007:

- The United Kingdom intends to cut the number of British soldiers in Iraq in half by mid-2007, reducing the force to 3,000 - 4,000. The plan calls for the pullout to begin in early 2007 with the withdrawal of 1,000 of the 7,000-strong existing force, officials said August 22 in London. This is the most optimistic projection, they added, with the pace of withdrawal governed by the ability of Iraq's government to take control of regions currently under the control of British Forces.

Brazil to Reopen Embassy in Baghdad:

- Brazilian Ambassador Bernardo de Azevedo Brito traveled to Baghdad to prepare for the reopening of the Brazilian Embassy. He is scheduled to present his credentials to President Jalal Talabani in September.



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – Contributors to Iraqi Stability Operations

Data as of August 7, 2006

27 Countries with forces in Iraq (in addition to US)

Albania	Denmark	Latvia	Romania
Armenia	El Salvador	Lithuania	Singapore
Australia	Estonia	Macedonia	Slovakia
Azerbaijan	Georgia	Moldova	South Korea
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Italy	Mongolia	Ukraine
Bulgaria	Japan	Poland	UK
Czech Republic	Kazakhstan	Portugal	

TOTAL ~ 18,000 Forces

*Note: Fiji participating as a part of the UN mission in Iraq.

34 Countries and NATO*
(including US)
Support Iraqi Stability Operations

*34 includes the 28 countries listed above, the US, Fiji, and as four NATO, non-MNF-I countries: Hungary, Iceland, Slovenia, Turkey



[8.] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – **Developments**

President Bush Addresses Press Conference:

- Addressing a press conference August 21, President Bush acknowledged that the Iraq war was “straining the psyche of our country,” but made clear that withdrawing from Iraq would be a mistake and that it would not occur during his presidency. The President also said that such a move would “send an unbelievably terrible signal to reformers across the region” and “would give the terrorists a safe haven from which to launch attacks.”

Iraqi National Security Adviser Discusses Foreign Troop Withdrawal:

- In an interview with Dow Jones Newswires and Associated Press Television in Tokyo August 22, Iraqi National Security Adviser Mowaffak al-Rubaie said that Iraqi forces should be able to control the country’s internal security within two years, but will still need foreign assistance to patrol its borders. He was careful, though, to discuss a specific timetable for foreign troop withdrawal, saying that such a timeline would “play into the hands of the terrorists and insurgents.”

Op-Ed By Iraqi Ambassador to the US:

- Iraqi Ambassador to the US Samir Sumaida'ie wrote an op-ed for the Washington Post August 21 in which he stressed the importance of democracy surviving in Iraq – despite the efforts of insurgents and terrorists to destabilize the country.



Special Addendum: Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT)

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PRT Mission Statement:

- To assist Iraq's provincial governments with developing a transparent and sustained capability to govern, promoting increased security and rule of law, promoting political and economic development, and providing provincial administration necessary to meet the basic needs of the population.

Provincial Reconstruction Team Concept:

- The PRT concept was developed to improve on Regional Embassy Office (REO) and Provincial Support Team (PST) programs. The PRTs are a civil-military operation led by the civilians with extensive support from US and Coalition Forces. The PRTs are an integrated capacity-building effort built around Local Governance Program (LGP) and include support from other agencies to cover all key capacity development needs.

PRT Operations Status:

- PRTs have been established in Ninawa, Babil, Tamim, Baghdad, and Anbar provinces. The teams are comprised of representatives from the US Department of State, United States Agency for International Development, Multi-National Force – Iraq, Department of Justice, Gulf Regional Division of the Army Corps of Engineers, Multi-National Corps – Iraq and Coalition partners.

Interested in working in Iraq?

Please visit <http://careers.state.gov/opportunities/iraq/index.html> for a list of available positions



Iraq Weekly Status – General Information

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- This brief draws from multiple sources. References are cited on the following pages.
- Please forward all questions and/or comments to:
NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov



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- Press Release – MNF-I: August 21, 2006 – (http://www.mnf-iraq.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2290&Itemid=18)

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- Press Briefing – MNF-I, MG Caldwell: August 22, 2006 – (http://www.mnf-iraq.com/images/stories/Press_briefings/2006/Aug/060822%20press%20conference%20slides.pdf)

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Slide 10:

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- IRMO Weekly Report, August 22

Slide 14:

- The chart shows average daily power production in megawatt hours (MWh). 120,000 MWh goal equates to 20 hours at 6000 MW average supplied load or 24 hours at 5000 MW average supply load. Currently supplies are not much improved over last year when judged by hours of power, but this is due in part to an influx of new appliances. This has dramatically altered demand and diluted the effect of increased generation capacity on actual results.

Slide 15:

Water:

- USACE Daily Report- August 16 and August 22

Electricity:

- USACE Daily Report- August 18, August 23

National Capacity Development:

- Updated List of Scopes of Work, August 22, Ministerial Coordination Team in IRMO

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Oil Prices:

- Oil Prices are sourced from Bloomberg

Employment Update:

- Information regarding the Employment Update was sourced from the IRMO Weekly Report – August 15
- CERP has not reported figures for some time. Until they report accurate data, the number will remain at 0.
- PCO will be reporting on a bi-weekly basis.

Slide 17:

- Information regarding the NID auction was gathered from the Central Bank of Iraq's website: <http://www.cbiraq.org>

Slide 18:

- Iraqi Bond Prices are sourced from Bloomberg

Slide 19:

- Izdihar Iraqi Business News, August 6 -14, 2006
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